## **EVANSTON**

Communicating on Climate, Energy & Sustainability



Catherine Hurley
Sustainability Manager

**Community Profile** 

Population:

74,486

Size: 7.8 Square Miles

Households: 29,651

June 18, 2015



## **EVANSTON'S LIVABILITY JOURNEY**







## **Evanston Livability Plan**

Healthy citizens and a healthier environment for all of Evanston

### **Five-Part Strategy:**



Residential Green Power



**Business Green Power** 



**X** Building Retrofits



Transportation Change



**m** City and Other Major Institutions

Reduce our carbon footprint by by **2016** 



# OUTREACH CAMPAIGN FOCUSES ON SIMPLE & RELATABLE ACTIONS







enjoyability commuteability walkability









## **ANNUAL REPORT 2014**



Elenston lakefront, August 201

#### **Evanston Sustainability Highlights** 2014

The City of Evanston is a national sustainability leader and has been recognized for taking an integrated approach addressing the environmental, economic, and social needs of the community. The Evanston Office of Sustainability supports Evanston's vision of becoming the "Most Livable City" by facilitating and managing sustainability projects across City departments, in conjunction with programs created by community organizations and residents. The 2014-2015 Sustainability Update highlights key sustainability initiatives and accomplishments.



## City of Vanston

#### Year in review



Evanston received a 4-STAR rating as a sustainable community, one of the first two U.S. cities to achieve a 4-STAR rating

#### Achievements by Goal Area

Built Environment 93% Education, Arts & Community 87% C Health & Safety 75%

Economy & Jobs 66%

Climate & Energy 60%

Equity & Empowerment 57%

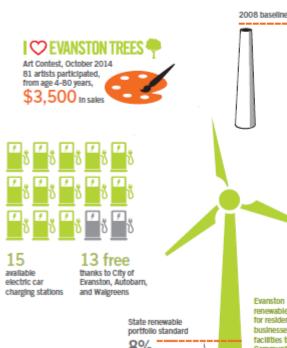
Natural Systems 46%

Out of the possible number of points per category, these percentages were attained.

Evanston

achieved a

13%



20% emissions reduction reduction between for 2016 2008-2012 was adopted.

In 2012.

a new goal of

state grant will provide

80 Divvy bikes at 8 Divvy blke stations

Evanston 100% renewable energy for residents, small businesses and City facilities through Community Choice Electricity Aggregation

City facilities, which Is equivalent to taking 19,000 vehicles off the road annually.

## LESSONS LEARNED - LIVABILITY PLAN

- Put People First Livability focus places people at the center of the conversation
- Make Behavior Change Easy Livability Plan focuses on short list of green actions that all can support
- Use images, stories to make climate change real Show people and common images, not pie charts



## **EVANSTON'S LIVABILITY JOURNEY**



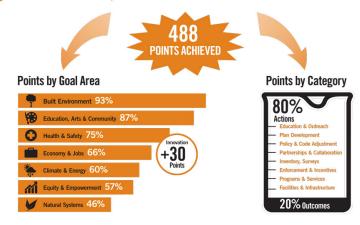


# OUR 4-STAR ACHIEVEMENT





Evanston is the second city in the nation to be awarded a 4-STAR Community Rating for national excellence in sustainability. The STAR Communities framework evaluates local governments on economic, environmental and social factors to measure sustainability.









#### **EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS**



of households within 1 mile of community venue with public events/space



**BIG OUTCOMES** 









## SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY & QUALITY OF LIFE

**Built Environment** 

Climate & Energy

**Economy & Jobs** 

Natural Systems



Health & Safety

Equity & Empowerment

Education, Arts & Community



**City Manager's Office** 

## **EVANSTON LIVABILITY ACADEMY**





## LIVABILITY ACADEMY AGENDA

- Welcome
- Small Group Introductions
- Team Building Activity Marshmallow Challenge
- Evanston, Creating the Most Livable City Video
- Break
- Presentations: How we are creating the most livable city
  - Q & A on Presentations
- Small group discussions
  - What else can we do to make the Most Livable City?
- Groups report out
- Wrap-up and next steps





## LIVABILITY ACADEMY BY THE NUMBERS





We support vibrant neighborhoods and connected communities.



We support local businesses and invest in local workforce to create prosperity for all.



We support people through all their stages of life.



# We support communities to be healthy, resilient and safe for all.



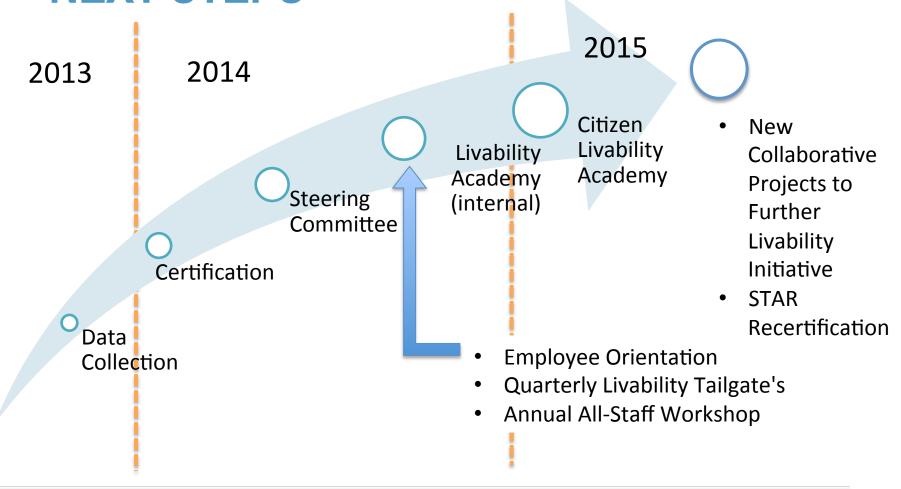
We connect people to quality housing, transportation & recreation.



# We increase efficiency, reduce impact and protect the resources of life.



# EVANSTON LIVABILITY INITIATIVE NEXT STEPS



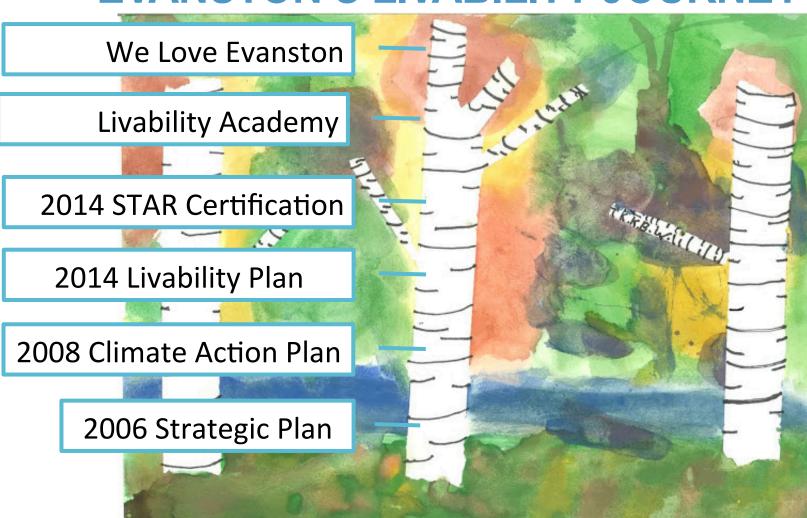


# LESSONS LEARNED – LIVABILITY ACADEMY

- Lead with solutions to boost engagement Highlight successful efforts already under way
- Help audience be part of the solution Employees enlisted for suggestions
- Use Images that Inspire and Empower Employees and community members showcased in Livability academy presentation, video



## **EVANSTON'S LIVABILITY JOURNEY**





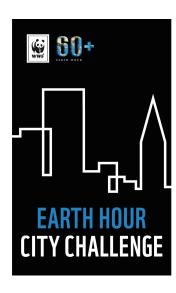
## WWF EARTH HOUR CITY CHALLENGE



Earth Hour
Capitals
Jury
Selection



We Love
Cities
People's
Selection

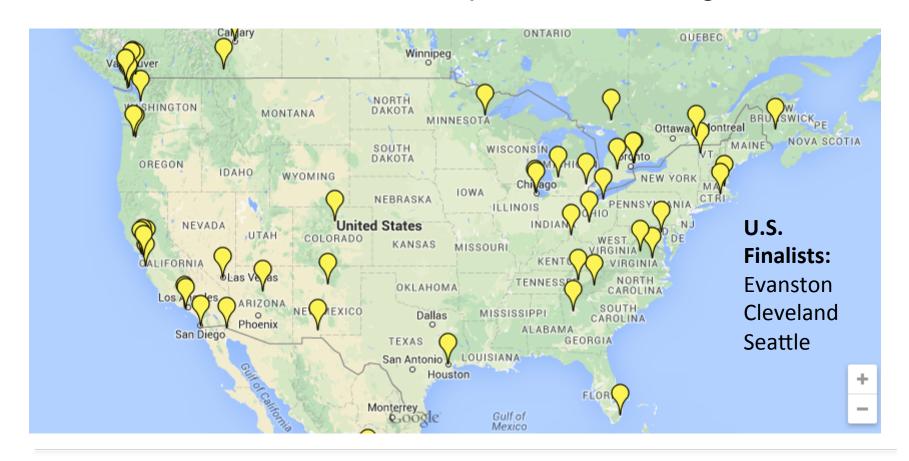


- Vote and share ideas on-line
- Tweet #WeLoveEvanston



## WWF EARTH HOUR CITY CHALLENGE

#### 59 U.S. Cities Participated in Challenge

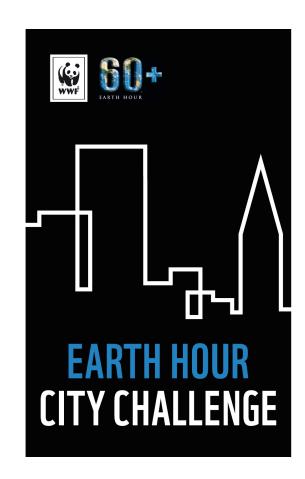




## EVANSTON NAMED 2015 U.S. EARTH HOUR CAPITAL

## Recognized for:

- 100% green energy for residents
   & small businesses
- 25 kW solar photovoltaic system built on Water Treatment Plant
- Meeting Climate Action Plan goal of 13% reduction in community greenhouse gas emissions
- 35 LEED Certified Buildings in Evanston
- Green Building Ordinance Requirement





# WELOVE EVANSTON DAY 2015 Learn More: cityofevanston.org/weloveevanstonday

- Organized a "local pride and action day" to engage community members in the Earth Hour Challenge.
- Day included special events, photo opportunities for the entire family, free fitness classes, and discounted items from a variety of Evanston businesses.





(b) 1h



13 likes

hewnbread #WeLoveEvanston Day! #evanston #shoplocal #artisanbread #cityofevanston #CHGOFoodScene downtownevanston #shopevanston #eatlocal







18 likes

hewnbread #WeLoveEvanston







(L) 2d

(L) 2d



♥ 13 likes

**stumbleandrelish** It's a sunny, lovely day to be out & about! Stop in & say hello. #WeLoveEvanston









## **RESULTS-EARTH HOUR**

- 14,365 total engagements
- 280 improvement ideas
- Widespread community participation



U.S. Earth Hour Capital 2015



## **LESSONS LEARNED – EARTH HOUR**

- Channel the power of Groups

   Engaging the local business community & We Love Evanston' action day
- Align solutions with audience values, priorities Pitch in to show your pride for your community; get people's ideas for solutions
- Make climate-friendly choices the default option
- Help audience be part of the solution





"Life is a journey, not a destination."

~Ralph Waldo Emerson

## **EVANSTON**

### For More Information:

Website: CityofEvanston.org/Sustainability

**Blog: EvanstonGreenBuzz.org** 

**Newsletter: Monthly** 

Twitter: @GreenEvanston

E-mail: churley@cityofevanston.org



Catherine Hurley
Sustainability Manager

June 18, 2015



# RESOURCES

## Stay Informed and Get Involved

#### **Annual Report:**

http://www.cityofevanston.org/assets/

Sustainablity\_Annual%20Report\_Final.pdf

#### We Love Evanston Day Video:

https://youtu.be/rsLk-vQZRfA

#### **Livability Academy Video:**

http://youtu.be/KVfcf\_uG1NU

